GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TRIBAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:214
ANSWERED ON:13.03.2007
DEVELOPMENT OF FOREST VILLAGES
Singh Shri Chandra Bhushan

Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is considering to develop over 2700 forest villages;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has set up a committee to frame rules for implementation of the Scheduled Tribes and other Traditional Forest Dwellers Act, 2006; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P. R. KYNDIAH)

(a) to (d) : A STATEMENT is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement referred to in reply to parts (a) to (d) of Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 214 for 13.03.2007 regarding Development of Forest Villages

(a) & (b): During the 10th Five Year Plan, Rs. 450 crore was allocated to the Ministry of Tribal Affairs for the development of forest villages under Special Central Assistance to Tribal Sub Plan (SCA to TSP). There are 2,474 forest villages/ habitations (reduced from the original 2,690) spread over 12 States (reduced from the original 13 States). The Ministry of Tribal Affairs has approved proposals covering 2,179 forest villages in 10 States and also released Rs. 32276.46 lakh as on date. Under the programme, infrastructure work relating to basic services and facilities viz. approach roads, healthcare, primary education, minor irrigation, rainwater harvesting, drinking water, sanitation, community halls, etc. and activities related to livelihood are taken up for implementation.

(c) & (d): Yes, Sir. The Ministry of Tribal Affairs has constituted a Technical Support Group on 12.02.2007 for framing the draft rules for carrying out the provisions of the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006. The Technical Support Group has 21 members consisting of reputed experts and officials from concerned Ministries/ Departments.

The Technical Support Group has been asked to prepare the draft rules within 3 months from the date of its constitution. The Group will hold consultations with State Governments/ Union Territory Administrations and concerned experts before finalizing the draft rules.